

OUT OF DOORS FOR WOMEN.

VOLUME III.

NOVEMBER, 1895.

NUMBER 24.

FLOWERS.

Flowers! when the Savior's calm benignant eye
Fell on your gentle beauty; when from you
That heavenly lesson from all hearts, He drew,
Eternal, universal as the sky,
Then in the bosom of your purity
A voice He set, as in a simple shrine,
That life's quick travellers ne'er might pass
you by
Unwarned of that sweet oracle divine."

This summer, while setting out some plants and planting some seeds I found some Lily of the Valley plants growing in the midst of the tall and shady grass. The white buds with their meek beauty and clustered beneath the huge green leaves, seemed as if they had suddenly sprouted from the green earth, or had dropped from above. As I touched them a shower of dew trembled and fell from the white buds and their sweet breath was wafted on the air from the store-houses of fragrance. This lovely flower, growing in sequestered nooks, and known only by its smell, surely teaches us the lesson of purity. I had sweet peas of all hues, varicolored pansies, flox, and moss roses; but neither the sweet peas with their delicate fragrance, the modest faced pansies, the flox, or the sun-kissed moss roses, seemed as delightful to me as a single sprig of the sweet Lily of the Vale.

If ever it shall be my fortune to dwell in the sunny clime of California, and I hope it may be so, I want to live where I may surround myself with flowers. I also want to become better acquainted with botany, that I may better understand their growth and development.

The leaves are slowly dropping from the trees and dreary winter will soon be here. The Lily of the Valley will sink into oblivion, to await, in the spring, the touch of life by Him who guideth all. And right here, it seems to me, is where we should derive our greatest lesson.

"If God for these so careth,
Will He not care for thee!"

[Minn.] Roy G. HUDSON.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE for November contains a tale of Washington life, by

Harriet Riddle Davis, entitled "In sight of the Goddess." A Dead City of Ceylon, and One hundred and twenty miles an hour, are among the other articles of note. Philadelphia. 25c.

THE BLEACHING OF NUTS BY DIPPING.

The commercial requirement that the shells of nuts offered for sale shall have a light and uniform tint has caused the process of sulphuring, so generally applied to drying fruits, to be applied to them. This process, however, is not only often unsatisfactory as regards the result desired, but even the strongest partisans of fruit-sulphuring admit that almonds and walnuts are frequently injured in their flavor by the needful prolonged treatment in the sulphur box. This is inevitable so long as the latter is charged with a column of trays of which the lower portion is necessarily oversulphured, if those at the upper end are to receive any effect at all. The result is that the shell of the fruit below is corroded ("rotted"), and the flavor of the kernel is lost. To some extent this can be avoided by using only a few trays; but in any case the process is very unsatisfactory when the fruit is spotted by rain or otherwise.

At the suggestion of several large growers of nuts, experiments have been undertaken in the laboratory of this station for the purpose of devising more satisfactory methods and securing uniformity of bleaching action; which of course, is best accomplished by using a bleaching dip of definite strength into which the nuts can be dipped for a definite minimum time.

TO BE CONTINUED.

CHARCOAL.

Charcoal is invaluable as a manurial agent; each little piece is a pantry full of the good things of this life; there is no cultivated plant that is not benefitted by having charcoal applied to the soil in which it is rooted.—Journal of Horticulture.

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LITERARY NOTES.

INDEX KEWENSIS.—The 4th and last volume of this grand work has just been received from the New York publishers, Messrs. Macmillan & Co., 66 5th avenue. It enumerates the genera and species of flowering plants described from the time of Linnaeus to 1885, giving the authors' names, date and place of publication, their native countries, synonyms, etc. Compiled and published at the expense of the late Charles Robert Darwin. The price is \$15 per volume; \$60 complete.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION.—A brief notice cannot do justice to the interesting announcements made by the publishers of this deservedly popular journal of the entertaining literature provided for the coming year;—delightful story writers, eminent statesmen, jurists, and scientists, will contribute to its pages. Price \$1.75 per year (weekly), and new subscribers will now receive it to the end of 1896, together with an art calendar of great beauty. 155 Columbus av., Boston.

HANDBOOK OF WEST-AMERICAN CONE BEARERS.—3d (pocket) edition, July, 1895. A handy volume of 104 pages and 17 pl., by Prof. J. G. Lemmon, (Telegraph av. and Thorne street, North Temescal near Oakland, California), whose work for the state board of forestry received so wide and favorable notice. Prof. Lemmon makes a strong appeal for the adoption of good English names for the sixty species known on the Pacific coast. Price \$1—discounts to teachers and schools.

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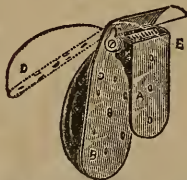
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